

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Wilfried KOLBE et al
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified Application,
 please amend the same as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Page 11, amend the paragraph containing lines 3-10 as
 follows:

A method of printing with a rotary printing
 press having a plurality of printing cylinders
 that are adapted to be adjusted on and off from a
 running web, with a length of a printed image
 being larger than a peripheral length of the

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largest one of the printing cylinders, the method including the steps of subdividing the printed image into elements, printing these elements with different printing cylinders, and periodically shifting at least one of the printing cylinders off from the web, each time for at least a duration of one turn of the printing cylinder.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, cancel the paragraph at lines 27 and 28, and in place thereof, insert the following new paragraph:

It is an object of the invention to provide a method permitting to print images with a large format on a compact and inexpensive printing press.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1-8 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of printing with a rotary printing press having a plurality of printing cylinders that are adapted to be adjusted on and off from a running web, wherein a length of a printed image is larger than a peripheral length of a largest
5 one of the printing cylinders, the method comprising the steps of:

subdividing the printed image into elements,

printing these elements with different printing cylinders,
and

10 periodically shifting one of said printing cylinders off
from the web, each time for at least a duration of one turn of
the printing cylinder.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the printed
image comprises a number of subsequent panels, said panels having
at least one element that is different from panel to panel, and
wherein these elements are printed with a plurality of printing
5 cylinders, and wherein:

 said step of printing includes the step of printing at
least one of said elements with each printing cylinder, and

 said step of periodically shifting includes the step of
timing "on" and "off" adjustment movements of the printing
10 cylinders such that each printing cylinder leaves those panels
empty for which the elements are printed with another one of the
printing cylinders.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the printed
image has an element that is identically repeated for each panel,
and said step of printing includes the step of printing this
element with a separate printing cylinder which remains
5 constantly in an "on" position.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the

step adjusting a plurality of printing cylinders "on" and "off" at timings that are offset in such a manner that an "on" adjustment of one printing cylinder occurs at a same longitudinal register as an "off" adjustment of another printing cylinder, so that the elements printed by these printing cylinders are in registry and form, in combination, an integral pattern.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1:

wherein the step of printing includes the step of printing elements having a length of less than a peripheral length of the printing cylinder, as measured in a feed direction of the web, with a single printing cylinder, and

further comprising the step of timing "on" adjustments of this single printing cylinder such that the element printed thereby is inserted into the printed image in a predetermined position.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 4:

wherein the step of printing includes the step of printing elements having a length of less than a peripheral length of the printing cylinder, as measured in a feed direction of the web, with a single printing cylinder, and

further comprising the step of timing "on" adjustments of this single printing cylinder such that the element printed thereby is inserted into the printed image in a predetermined position.

7. (Amended) A rotary printing press comprising:

a plurality of printing cylinders,

a feeding device for feeding a web to be printed,

a shift mechanism for adjusting the printing cylinders

5 individually on and off from said web, and

a control unit adapted to control the shift mechanism
for at least one of said plurality of cylinders such that this
cylinder is periodically adjusted on an off from the web during
the printing operation.

8. (Amended) The printing press of claim 7, wherein said
shift mechanism is adapted to shift said at least one printing
cylinder, that is adjusted on and off periodically, between an
"on" position and an "off" position within a length of time that
5 is substantially smaller than a rotation period of said printing
cylinder.

R E M A R K S

Claims 1-12 are now in this application, and are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

The claims have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the steps, elements and limitations therein, and to positively recite each step, element and limitation.

A marked-up copy of the claims is enclosed as an appendix.

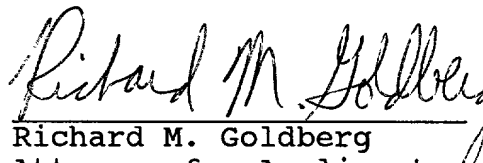
The specification has also been amended to correct a misspelled word. A marked-up copy of this amendment is enclosed as an appendix.

The Abstract has also been amended, and a marked-up copy of the same is enclosed as an appendix.

Please charge any additional fees incurred by this Preliminary Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-1524.

It is hoped that this Preliminary Amendment will facilitate an examination of the application on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,


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MARKED-UP COPY OF THE ABSTRACT

Page 11, amend the paragraph containing lines 3-10 as follows:

A method of printing with a rotary printing press having a plurality of printing cylinders that are adapted to be adjusted on and off from a running web, [wherein] with a length of a printed image [is] being larger than a peripheral length of the largest one of the printing cylinders, the method [comprising] including the steps of[: -] subdividing the printed image into elements, [and -] printing these elements with different printing cylinders, [wherein] and periodically shifting at least one of [said] the printing cylinders [is periodically shifted] off from the web, each time for at least a duration of one turn of the printing cylinder.

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED PORTION OF SPECIFICATION

Page 1, cancel the paragraph at lines 27 and 28, and in place thereof, insert the following new paragraph:

It is an object of the invention to provide a method permitting to print images with a large format on a compact and [cheep] inexpensive printing press.

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS

Amend claims 1-12 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of printing with a rotary printing press having a plurality of printing cylinders that are adapted to be adjusted on and off from a running web, wherein a length of a printed image is larger than a peripheral length of [the] a
5 largest one of the printing cylinders, the method comprising the steps of:

[-] subdividing the printed image into elements, [and]

[-] printing these elements with different printing cylinders, [wherein] and

periodically shifting one of said printing cylinders [is
10 periodically shifted] off from the web, each time for at least a duration of one turn of the printing cylinder.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the printed image [consists of] comprises a number of subsequent panels, said panels having at least one element that is different from panel to panel, and wherein these elements are printed with a plurality
5 of printing cylinders, [whereby] and wherein:

said step of printing includes the step of printing at least one of said elements with each printing cylinder [prints one or more of said elements], and

said step of periodically shifting includes the step of
10 timing "on" and "off" adjustment movements of the printing cylinders [are timed] such that each printing cylinder leaves

those panels empty for which the elements are printed with another one of the printing cylinders.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the printed image has an element that is identically repeated for each panel, and said step of printing includes the step of printing this element [is printed] with a separate printing cylinder which
5 remains constantly in an "on" position.

4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, [wherein] further comprising the step adjusting a plurality of printing cylinders [are adjusted] "on" and "off" at timings that are offset in such a manner that an "on" adjustment of one printing cylinder occurs
5 at [the] a same longitudinal register as an "off" adjustment of another printing cylinder, so that the elements printed by these printing cylinders are in registry and form, in combination, an integral pattern.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1[, wherein]:
wherein the step of printing includes the step of printing elements having a length of less than [the] a peripheral length of the printing cylinder, as measured in a feed direction
5 of the web, [are printed] with a single printing cylinder, and [wherein the]

further comprising the step of timing "on" adjustments of this single printing cylinder [are timed] such that the element printed thereby is inserted into the printed image in a

10 predetermined position.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 4[, wherein]:

wherein the step of printing includes the step of
printing elements having a length of less than [the] a peripheral
length of the printing cylinder, as measured in a feed direction
5 of the web, [are printed] with a single printing cylinder, and
[wherein the]

further comprising the step of timing "on" adjustments
of this single printing cylinder [are timed] such that the
element printed thereby is inserted into the printed image in a
10 predetermined position.

7. (Amended) A rotary printing press comprising:

[-] a plurality of printing cylinders,

[-] a feeding [means] device for feeding a web to be
printed,

5 [-] a shift mechanism for adjusting the printing
cylinders individually on and off from said web, and

[-] a control unit adapted to control the shift
mechanism for at least one of said plurality of cylinders such
that this cylinder is periodically adjusted on an off from the
10 web during the printing operation.

8. (Amended) The printing press of claim 7, wherein said
shift mechanism is adapted to shift said at least one printing
cylinder, that is adjusted on and off periodically, between [and]

an "on" position and an "off" position within a length of time
5 that is substantially smaller than a rotation period of said
printing cylinder.